

## CONTRACTING FOR RAIN.

KANSAS FARMERS ENGAGE MELBOURNE TO RELIEVE A DROUGHT.

He will try to cause showers near Goodland on Sept. 26 for \$5000—A Cheyenne Man's Story of the Way in Which It Was Done in Wyoming.

TOPEKA, Sept. 19.—Prof. Melbourne has entered into a contract to make rain at Goodland in this State on Sept. 26. He is to receive \$500 for causing rain to fall over a territory within a radius of fifty miles of Goodland. Goodland is within fifteen miles of the Colorado divide. That part of the State is in great need of rain. It has been found impossible to irrigate, and the settlers have raised the money for making the rain test. Gov. Humphrey and a delegation from Topeka will be present.

CHICAGO, Sept. 19.—Lester Kabris, a captain of Cheyenne, now in this city, talked to a reporter of the recent rain-making experiments of Frank Melbourne at that place.

I was present during Melbourne's experiments, recently at Cheyenne, and the results were most gratifying. Ex-Gov. Taylor of Wyoming, Perrin, Oregon, Jameson, ranch owner, President Melville of the National Bank, were also present during the performances. They were skeptical when they came on the ground in the Cheyenne suburbs, where the rain producer was to carry on his communication with the clouds. The experiments were made from the loft of a barn on an open space 400 yards from a farm house. There was a heavy laugh from the spectators when Melbourne was seen to turn bare attired in nothing but a pair of trousers and a flannel shirt, and said:

"Gentlemen, we will have a shower at 12 o'clock. This was at 12 o'clock, and he added:

"You will not laugh at a hard at noon. You will be surprised."

Melbourne then disappeared into the barn and opened a little trap-door that he had temporarily arranged in the roof. The crowd looked on with interest, and Melbourne emerged a fraud. At 10:45 there was not a cloud visible, and the indications for rain were not favorable. But it began to rain for that district had predicted continued fair weather. Slowly, slowly, at about 11 o'clock, the clouds began to sweep up over the horizon. The sun went down, and the stars shone directly above us. At 12 o'clock it began to drizzle, and at 12:30 the rain was coming down steadily. The rain was general around Cheyenne.

"At 12 o'clock or fifteen minutes before that hour, the rain had ceased, the clouds had dispersed, and the sun was again visible above us. It was at 12 o'clock, Melbourne came out. His face was flushed and his clothing was wrinkled with perspiration. He said to me: "Governor, I will give you another shower at 12 o'clock."

"For heaven's sake tell him he will drown us out," said a man who had seen the remarkable performances of the Ohio man.

Melbourne said: "I am sorry to inform Mr. Melbourne that he and his associates were thoroughly satisfied with the experiments."

HARD CIDER MADE HIM A MANIAC.

Then He Took to the Woods and a Hunting Party Had an Exciting Time.

WINSTON, Conn., Sept. 19.—An exciting hunt for wild men has been started by the people of the State of Connecticut for the past three days. Frank Kelly of East Canaan, a raving maniac, is the object of the hunt. He has been at large for some time, and as he is a man of tremendous strength, the greatest fear has been felt in the locality. Children were not allowed to go to school alone, and when the men went to work they always left the women folks some weapon of defense. Kelly, who is about 40 years old, has for years been employed at the iron works of the late Senator W. H. Barnum. His work was where the heat was intense, and to quench his thirst he drank gallons of water each day. He said that this did not quench his thirst, and a few weeks ago he substituted hard cider for ice water.

As a result he soon became a raving maniac. Last week he was captured by a party of men under the lead of Lawyer Mum of this place, organized a big hunt for him.

After several days' thorough search the party from New Haven, at Abbot's noon an old shoe was found by the roadside, which looked like Kelly's. Then the party scattered, and the hunt became a wild chase. They were, however, when suddenly he heard a shriek down the roadside and saw his companions running toward him surrounded by a cloud of dust. At first he was in a panic, and, uttering hoarse yell, bounded the wild man. Step by step the maniac gained on him, and at last the two clashed until they were almost in reach of their hands when they arrived at the place where Lawyer Mum was standing. Mum is a brave man, but he was not the sort of man that it is fatal to hesitate or show fear before a crazy person, so he boldly stepped in front of the maniac and said firmly: "I am here to do to you what you have done to me." He then coaxed him into the same time patting him kindly on the shoulder. The maniac replied that they were trying to "fix" him, but he would kill them if they did.

After a long contest of mental power between Mum and the maniac, at several times during which it seemed as though the same would end in a struggle over the life and limb, and the club descended and dash out the lawyer's brains. Mum finally triumphed, and the maniac was then coaxed into a house and ate ravenously. "Every once and a while he would jump up with a howl and say that he was one way, and then the next minute he would turn and run away. We never knew him to turn back after we coaxed him in."

He then was coaxed into Canadian, where a strong guard was placed over him. The maniac was then sent to the Insane Asylum at Middlesex. His feet, arms and legs were covered with scratches and were twice their normal size.

SCHWEINFELDER'S ANNIVERSARY.

A Quaint Religious Sect, whose Members First Came to America in 1784.

READING, Pa., Sept. 19.—On Thursday next the quaint sect known as the Schweiinfelders, of whom there are but five congregations in the United States, and these all located near here in the contiguous counties of Berks, Lehigh, and Montgomery, will hold their unique annual celebration, or Gedächtnis Tag, in Clayton, Washington township, to commemorate the arrival of their forefathers in Philadelphia in 1784. Much interest attaches to the ceremonies of this peculiar people, and extensive preparations have been made for the occasion. The memorial services will cover morning and afternoon, with a simple repast at midday in the meeting house, accompanied by a service according to the traditional custom.

The sect was founded by Caspar Schweiinfeld, a religious nonlinear, reformer, whose ideas were in many ways identical with those of the Amish. The sect numbers but five members in America, and the church does not exist.

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They are now showing a large assortment of fancy weaves in cheviots, camel's hair, homespun, and spot novelties in the newest of colorings and designs.

Homespun Suiting (36-inch, all wool), latest Fall Colorings at 40c. yard.

100 pieces 50-inch Cheviot Suiting, all wool—very desirable goods,

79c.; worth double.

KID GLOVES.

LATEST NOVELTIES IN Fine 8-button light suede mousquetaire in gray, navy blue, myrtle, olive, gossamer blue, and cased blue.

At \$1.50 pair.

CHILDREN'S COATS AND CAPS

to match. Imported and domestic cloths, including many styles in Bedford cloths, Eiderdowns, Silks, and Lamb's Wool—low price.

HOUSE FURNISHING.

Tin ware, agate ware, wooden ware, household hardware, trucks, satchels, school bags &c.

KITCHEN RANGES AND PARLOR STOVES, OVER 100 NEW STYLES TO SELECT FROM.

Stoves delivered and put up free of charge.

GAS, COOK, AND HEATING STOVES.

NEW STOCK. LOWEST PRICE.

Edw'd Ridley & Sons,

501, 511, 511 1/2 to 501 GRAND ST.

Six doors occupied exclusively by us for the sale of Millinery, Fancy and Dress Goods, etc.

## RIDLEY'S

Grand Street, N. Y.

COVERING ENTIRE BLOCK ON GRAND ST.

## LACE CURTAINS.

FALL IMPORTATION OF NOTTINGHAM and SCOTCH LACE CURTAINS, all new patterns in GUIPURE, BRUSSELS, CLUNY, ANTIQUE, and FLORAL EFFECTS: white and cream, all tape bound.

3 yards long at 75c., 80c., \$1.95, \$1.60 to \$3 pair.

3 1/2 yards long at \$1.95, \$1.75, \$2.25, \$2.75 to \$3.50 pair.

4 yards long at \$3, \$3.50, \$4.50, \$5.50 to \$7 pair.

Real Irish Point Lace Curtains.

\$4, \$5, \$6.50, \$8.50, \$10.50 to \$25 pair.

## LACE BED SPREADS.

NOTTINGHAM LACE BED SPREADS, with Pillow Shams to match; white and cream; edges bound with tape; \$1.35, \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2.25, \$2.50 to \$7 per set.

## PORTIERES.

CHINESE PORTIERES, ALL THE LEADING COLORS and newest designs.

## DRESS TRIMMINGS.

COLORED and BLACK, plain or fancy SILK HEADINGS at 4c., 9c., 15c., 25c. yard.

FANCY COLORED SILK GIMPS at 25c., 30c., 35c. yard.

BLACK FINE CUT JET BEADED HEADINGS, 8c., 12c., 15c., 20c., 25c. to 75c. yard.

RICH BLACK BEADED PASSEMENTERIE at 50c., 65c., 75c., 81, \$1.25, \$1.50 to \$5 yard.

## FRINGES.

Colored Silk Twist Cord Fringes, 1 inch deep, \$1.25 per yard.

Black Silk Fringe, fancy heading, 1 1/2 inches deep, \$1.25 per yard; worth \$2.

Silk Cords, all colors, at 2c., 5c., and 10c. per yard.

## CLOAKS, SUITS

And an excellent company, including

J. M. COVILLE.

Under the management of EDWARD KIRK.

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Camille Odette.

Wednesday Matinee, 14th St., near 6th Av.

J. Wesley Rosenquist, Manager.

RESERVED SEATS, 50c.

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WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY MATINÉE.

THE GREAT DISCOVERY!

A PURE MINE OF COMEDY IN

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(All Laughter.)

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